



FINAL La Barranca Fire Update

Date: June 4, 2006, 6 p.m.

La Barranca Fire Contact Numbers: 928-204-6538, 928-606-7490, 928-606-7561, 928-606-7578
These numbers will only be operational through this evening as the Northern Arizona Incident Management Team is turning over management of the fire tomorrow morning.

Website: www.nazteam.com or www.az211.gov

Fire Name: La Barranca Fire

Time/Date Started: Thursday, June 1, 2006 – 2 p.m.

Location: Oak Creek Village; The La Barranca Fire started on La Barranca Drive in the Village of Oak Creek, south of Sedona and east of Highway 179. The fire started on private property and moved onto the Red Rock Ranger District of the Coconino National Forest. It burned into the Munds Mountain Wilderness. It is about 6 miles south of Sedona.

Cause: Human-caused. The La Barranca Fire was caused by a fence company that was grinding on a metal fence post on private property.

Fuels: Grass, brush, pinyon-juniper woodland

Size: Total Size – 836 acres

% Contained: 95 %

Estimated Containment Date: 6 p.m., June 5

Resources Committed: 3 Type 1 crews (hotshot crews), 4 Type 2 crews, 2 helicopters (1 medium, 1 light), 4 engines, 3 water tenders. Total personnel = approx. 300 personnel assigned

Estimated Cost to Date: \$1,600,000

Predicted Weather: Hot and dry conditions are expected to continue.

Structures:

Structures have been lost:

1 primary residence destroyed

1 partially-damaged residence

1 guest house/shop destroyed

3 outbuildings destroyed

From Estate Circle up canyon in the fire area, 158 total structures were saved.

Evacuations: The evacuation order for the Pine Valley subdivision was lifted yesterday at noon. The Yavapai County Sheriff's Department is managing access into the area until 7 p.m. today when all road closures will be lifted. Non-residents are asked to limit their use of the area given safety concerns such as continued heavy use by firefighters, equipment and rehabilitation workers.

Summary: The fire showed minimal activity today. The Northern Arizona Incident Management Team will turn over management and operational responsibilities of the La Barranca Fire to the Coconino National Forest tomorrow (June 5) at 6 a.m. The Northern Arizona Incident Management Team would like to thank the Sedona and Village of Oak Creek communities for their support during the duration of the La Barranca Fire. A few examples of their support included opening their homes and businesses to evacuees, providing disaster relief services, offering private property and water sources for firefighting efforts, and providing baked goods and snacks for firefighters.

Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon and the surrounding areas are open and are not being impacted by the La Barranca Fire. Smoke impact is minimal.

The La Barranca Fire serves to highlight the extreme fire conditions that exist statewide this year and the importance of everyone being extra careful with fire. The Coconino National Forest is implementing additional fire restrictions beginning at 8 a.m. tomorrow. To learn more about making private property more defensible against fire, please visit www.firewise.org.

Closures:

At 7 p.m. today, road closures will be lifted. Three trails will remain closed: Jacks Canyon, Hot Loop and Munds Mountain.

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